

A NEW GENUS OF HARPACTORINAE (HETEROPTERA: REDUVIIDAE) FROM SOUTHERN INDIA¹

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(With two text-figures)

A new reduviid genus, namely *Neonagusta*, of the subfamily Harpactorinae, has been described and illustrated. A key to the Indian genera of the division Euagorasaria has been formulated.

INTRODUCTION

Out of the 16 genera described under the division Euagorasaria, by Distant (1902, 1910), only one genus, viz. *Nagusta* Stal has been reported to have bituberculated posterior lobe of pronotum.

A key has been formulated to the Indian genera of the division Euagorasaria of the subfamily Harpactorinae based on our observations and on the information available in the Fauna of British India volumes (Distant 1902, 1910).

Neonagusta gen. nov.

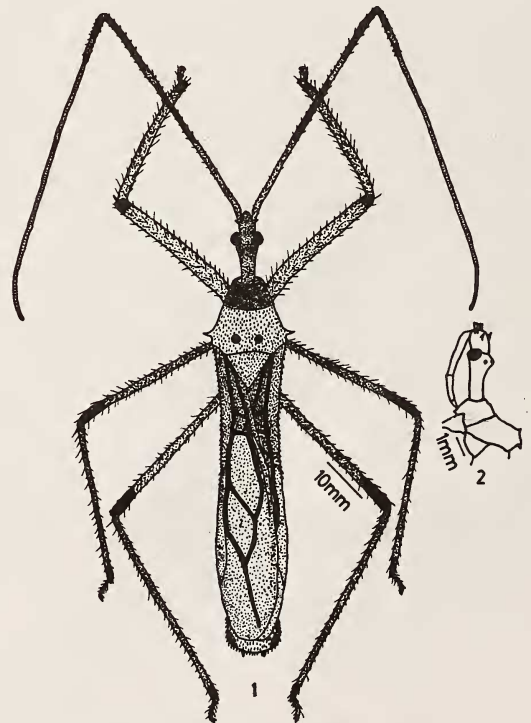
Head longer than pronotum; antennal base spined behind; postocular area nearly twice as long as anteocular area; first rostral segment longer than the remaining two segments together; scape much longer than head and pronotum together; disc of posterior lobe of pronotum armed with two distinct tubercles; scutellum with its apex obtuse; legs long and slender; anterior femora incrassate.

Distant (1910), while describing the genus *Nagusta*, has suggested that the length of the head and the proportions of the anteocular and postocular portions differentiate *Nagusta* and that it could be placed after the division Euagorasaria and before the division Polididusaria. *Neonagusta* has close affinities to the genus *Nagusta* by its long head and discally bituberculate posterior lobe of pronotum. But it can be easily differentiated

from the genus *Nagusta* by the long scape (longer than the head and pronotum together), the first rostral segment longer than the remaining two segments together and by the slightly incrassate anterior femora.

Neonagusta bituberculata sp. nov. (Figs. 1, 2)

Very pale stramineous, greyishly sericeous; postocular area of head except the ocellar area, basal part of second segment of rostrum, coxae and trochanters reddish; posterior lobe of pronotum, abdominal dorsum tinged with red.



Figs. 1-2. *Neonagusta bituberculata* sp. nov.
1. Male, dorsal view, 2. Head and pronotum, lateral view.

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KEY TO THE INDIAN GENERA OF THE DIVISION
EUAGORASARIA

1. Anterior lobe of pronotum bituberculate posteriorly; anterior femora strongly incrassate, anterior tibiae incurved and spined before apex *Rihirbus* Stal
 - Anterior lobe of pronotum not bituberculate posteriorly; anterior femora a little or not incrassate; anterior tibiae simple, not inwardly spined before apex 2
2. Anterior lobe of pronotum prominently tuberculate on each side *Isyndus* Stal
 - Anterior lobe of pronotum not prominently tuberculate on each side 3
3. Pronotum discally unarmed 4
 - Pronotum discally armed 10
4. Anterolateral margins of pronotal lobe with tubercles *Gallobelgicus* Distant
 - Anterolateral margins of pronotal lobe without tubercles 5
5. First segment of rostrum considerably shorter than the second 6
 - First segment of rostrum longer than the second 7
6. Antennal base tuberculated behind; posterior lobe of pronotum laterally armed with a long spine
 - *Euagoras* Burmeister
 - Antennal base spined behind; posterior lobe of pronotum laterally unarmed
 - *Macracanthopsis* Reuter
7. Head about as long as pronotum *Endochus* Stal
 - Head shorter than pronotum 8
8. Anteoconular and postconular areas about equal in length; lateral pronotal angles prominent but not spinous ...
 - *Cydnocoris* Stal
 - Postconular area about half as long as anteoconular area; lateral pronotal angles spinously produced 9
9. Spine on posterior angles of pronotum long and porrect *Serendiba* Distant
 - Spine on posterior angles of pronotum short and not porrect *Villanovanus* Distant
10. Only posterior lobe of pronotum discally armed 11
 - Both anterior and posterior lobes of pronotum discally armed 17
11. Posterior lobe of pronotum discally spined 12
 - Posterior lobe of pronotum discally bituberculated 16
12. Head about as long as pronotum 13
 - Head shorter than pronotum 14
13. Postconular area a little longer than anteoconular area; hemelytra passing the abdominal apex *Platerus* Distant
 - Postconular area much longer than anteoconular area, hemelytra not quite reaching the abdominal apex *Lanca* Distant
14. Scutellum unarmed *Epidaus* Stal
 - Scutellum armed with suberect spines 15
15. Scutellum with a single suberect spine; first rostral segment much longer than second *Alcmena* Stal
 - Scutellum with two spines, first and second rostral segments subequal *Occamus* Distant
16. First antennal segment shorter than the head and pronotum together *Nagusta* Stal
 - First antennal segment longer than the head and pronotum together *Neonagusta* gen. nov.
17. Anteoconular and postconular areas about equal in length; lateral abdominal margins dilated *Brassivola* Distant
 - Postconular area longer than anteoconular area; lateral abdominal margins not dilated *Bartacus* Distant

Head elongate (3.9 mm long), longer than pronotum (3.3 mm long), cylindrical; armed with a spine at the base of each antenna; postconular area (2.5 mm long) nearly twice as long as anteoconular area (1.4 mm), both are demarcated by a sulcus between eyes; eyes laterally protruding; a pair of ocelli directed laterally placed on the elevated region of the postconular area immediately behind eyes; antennae long (23.7 mm) and slender, basal segment as long as posterior femora; scape and pedicel annulated, finely pilose; rostrum slightly curved, the first segment longer than the remaining two segments together, scarcely pilose.

Pronotum subtriangular; armed with two lateral spines (each spine 0.5 mm long); anterior lobe of pronotum and prosternum very much sculptured; posterior lobe of pronotum longer (1.9 mm) than anterior lobe of pronotum (1.5 mm), disc of posterior lobe of pronotum armed with two distinct tuberculous spines;

posterior lobe finely pubescent; anteriolateral angles of pronotum obtuse and posteriolateral angles of pronotum rounded; scutellum (2.3 mm long) unarmed, triangular, its apex obtuse, finely pilose; hemelytra (13.33 mm long) not reaching the abdominal apex; venation distinct on corium and membrane; the latter strongly rugulose; corium and clavus finely pilose; legs long and slender; fore femora (7.9 mm long) a little incrassate and slightly longer than fore tibiae (7.3 mm long), mid leg the shortest (14.5 mm) and hind leg the longest (22.0 mm), tarsus three segmented, first segment the shortest (0.2 mm) and third segment the longest (0.5 mm long); abdomen elongate; connexivum narrow; segmentation clear, abdomen beneath strongly carinate; apex of parameres visible from the abdominal apex; abdomen finely pilose.

Holotype: male, collected from Courtallam tropical rain forest (8°56' N, 77°16' 30"E)

of Nellai Kattabomman District, Tamil Nadu on 2 May 1988. Coll. J. Antony Pushparaj. Allotype: not collected. Holotype is at present pinned and deposited (N.D. No. 11) at the reduviid collections of Entomology Research Unit, Department of Zoology, St. Xavier's College, Palayankottai, South India.

Etymology: The generic name *Neonagusta* is given because of its close affinities to the genus *Nagusta*. The species is named *bituberculata* because of its bituberculate posterior pronotal lobe.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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A NEW *SAGINA* L. (CARYOPHYLLACEAE) FROM NORTH-WEST HIMALAYA¹

R.D. GAUR²
(With a text-figure)

Sagina purii sp. nov.

Sagina saginoides (L.) Karsten affinis, sed differt habitu filiformi musciformi, foliorum vaginis glandularipilosis, noduliferis, floribus parvioribus tetrameris, solitariis, petalis quam sepalis majoribus, seminibus pyramidalibus, cum processibus verrucosis.

A small, erect, filiform, annual herb 5-8 cm high. Stem erect, branched, branches long, spreading. Leaves opposite, decussate, sessile,

glabrous, linear to lanceolate (4-6 mm), both the leaves jointed at the base by a delicate decurrent sheath, which produces glandular knobbed hairs; leaf tip attenuate.

Flowers small, about 2 mm, white, solitary on axillary or terminal stalk, the cylindrical stalk enlarges in fruits up to 15 mm. Sepals 4, free, greenish white, about 1.5 mm, acute. Petals 4, broader than sepals, up to 1.8 mm, white and obtuse. Stamens 4, (rarely 2 or 3), filament long with ditheous anthers. Pollen grains spheroidal (28-32 µm), panporate, pores elliptical (8-10).

Gynoecium tricarpeal, syncarpous, superior and unilocular urn-shaped ovary with

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